

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 USSS-00 CPR-01 PM-05 NSC-05
OPR-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 SY-05 A-01 SSO-00
NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00
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O 171030Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4028

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 KABUL 5730

FOR NEA/PAB: MR. HORNBLOW

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (WAHEED ABDULLAH), US, AF
SUBJ: WAHEED ABDULLAH'S VISIT TO THE U.S.: CALIFORNIA SCHEDULE

REF: A) KABUL 5491, B) STATE 185777

1. THE UNGA SPEECH-SCHEDULING PROBLEM DISCUSSED IN REFTTEL A HAS NOW BEEN RESOLVED. BANGLADESH IS GIVING AFGHANISTAN ITS SPEAKING POSITION ON OCTOBER 4 -- THE SIXTH "AFTERNOON" PRESENTATION. ALTHOUGH FOREIGN MINISTER ABDULLAH WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO DELIVER HIS SPEECH VERY LATE THAT NIGHT, HE HAS CONFIRMED THAT HE PLANS TO FOLLOW THE SAN FRANCISCO SCHEDULE PROPOSED IN REFTTEL B.

2. TAKING, IN ORDER, THE ELEMENTS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO SCHEDULE, WOULD YOU PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS OF THE AFGHAN PARTY:

A. WHAT "MORNING FLIGHT" SHOULD THEY TAKE FROM NEW YORK TO SAN FRANCISCO? WHAT ARE THE DEPARTURE AND ARRIVAL TIMES?

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B. WILL THE MINISTER BE EXPECTED TO MAKE ANY REMARKS AT THE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL DINNER ON OCTOBER 5 -- OR RESPOND TO ANY TOASTS? WHO WILL SERVE AS HOST?

C. ACCORDING TO THE ASIA FOUNDATION'S LETTER OF JULY 29, THE MINISTER IS EXPECTED TO DELIVER A FEW INFORMAL REMARKS AT THEIR LUNCHEON -- AND ENGAGSRIN A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER DIALOGUE.

WILL THERE BE ANY SPEAKING REQUIREMENT FOR THAT EVENING'S ASIA FOUNDATION DINNER? HAS THE HOST FOR THAT DINNER BEEN DETERMINED YET?

3. IN ANSWER TO THE QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE ASIA FOUNDATION IN ITS LETTER OF JULY 29:

A. AMBASSADOR ELIOT WILL BE IN CHARGE OF PLANNING AND CONDUCTING THE MINISTER'S SIGHTSEEING SCHEDULE ON OCTOBER 7.

B. THE MINISTER IS VERY FLEXIBLE ABOUT THE SIZES OF THE GROUPS HE ADDRESSES. WE WOULD HOPE, HOWEVER, THAT HE WOULD RECEIVE THE MAXIMUM EXPOSURE POSSIBLE -- AND BE ABLE TO MEET CALIFORNIANS FROM MANY FIELDS OF INTEREST.

C. AS THE AFGHAN PARTY ARE ALL MUSLIMS, IT WOULD BE DISCREET NOT TO SERVE ANY DISHES WITH PORK. THEY SHOULD ALSO BE OFFERED A CHOICE BETWEEN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND SOFT DRINKS.

D. AS STATED EARLIER, THE MINISTER WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY DR. ABDUL WAHID KARIM, AFGHAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S., AND MR. ABDUL AHAD NASSER-ZIAYEE, DIRECTOR OF THE INFORMATION DEPARTMENT (A RECENT REASSIGNMENT), MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. ALL THREE SPEAK EXCELLENT ENGLISH. THEY ARE NOT BEING ACCOMPANIED BY WIVES. (WILL COUNTRY OFFICER MICHAEL HORNBLow LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ALSO BE ABLE TO ACCOMPANY THE PARTY, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE EMBASSY IN KABUL 5383?).

E. UNCLASSIFIED BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON ALL THREE AFGHAN OFFICIALS WILL BE SUBMITTED SHORTLY IN A SEPARATE TELEGRAM.

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USSS-00 CPR-01 PM-05 NSC-05 OPR-02
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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4029

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FOR NEA/PAB: MR. HORNBLow

F. WAHEED ABDULLAH'S OFFICIAL TITLE REMAINS "MINISTER-IN-CHARGE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS". HE IS THE TOP-RANKING OFFICIAL OF THE AFGHAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WITH FULL CABINET RANK, AND, THEREFORE, SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS "FOREIGN MINISTER" IN A DE FACTO SENSE -- EVEN THOUGH PRESIDENT DAOUD DID NOT ELECT TO UTILIZE THIS PARTICULAR TITLE WHEN HE NAMED HIS CABINET ON MARCH 17 UNDER THE TERMS OF THE NEW CONSTITUTION. (DURING THE PRE-CONSTITUTION PERIOD, DAOUD HAD ALSO HELD THE PORTFOLIO OF FOREIGN MINISTER -- BUT DID NOT SO REDISIGNATE HIMSELF ON MARCH 17.) WE APPRECIATE THAT THIS MIGHT BE SOMEWHAT COMPLICATED TO EXPLAIN TO THE CALIFORNIA HOSTS, THEREFORE YOU ARE SAFE IN DESCRIBING HIM SIMPLY AS AFGHANISTAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER -- BUT ADVISE THAT HIS EXACT TITLE SHOULD BE USED IN PROGRAM NOTES, ETC.

4. THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU WORK OUT DIRECTLY WITH AMBASSADOR KARIM WHICH TRANSPORTATION THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WILL PROVIDE IN SAN FRANCISCO -- AND WHAT HIS EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR.

5. PLEASE ASK THE ASIA FOUNDATION TO MAKE THE HOTEL RESERVATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. (MR. NASSER-ZIAYEE WILL BE IN CHARGE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAKING THE PAYMENT.) THE MINISTER ACCEPTS THE RECOMMENDATION THAT THE MARK HOPKINS BE THE FIRST CHOICE -- AND RANKS THE OTHER CHOICES IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER: THE FAIRMONT, THE ST. FRANCIS, AND THE CLIFT.

6. AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THEIR SAN FRANCISCO PROGRAM, MINISTER ABDULLAH AND HIS PARTY ARE INTERESTED IN SUBSEQUENTLY VISITING THE LOS ANGELES AREA TO SEE HOLLYWOOD, DISNEYLAND, AND OTHER ATTRACTIONS. WE ALSO THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR YOU TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF THIS ELEMENT OF THE SCHEDULE DIRECTLY WITH AMBASSADOR KARIM -- AND INFORM US OF YOUR DECISIONS. AT THE SUGGESTION OF AMBASSADOR ELIOT, THEY ARE PLANNING TO DRIVE FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO LOS ANGELES ALONG SCENIC CALIFORNIA STATE HIGHWAY NO. 1. TENTATIVELY, THEY PLAN TO DEPART FROM SAN FRANCISCO OCTOBER 8, AND TAKE ONE DAY TO MAKE THE TRIP (UNLESS YOU AND AMBASSADOR KARIM MIGHT DECIDE TO PROPOSE AN

OVERNIGHT STOP ENROUTE). THEY PLAN TO SPEND TWO DAYS SIGHT-SEEING IN THE LOS ANGELES REGION -- AND THEN RETURN TO NEW YORK BY AIR.

7. FYI: AMBASSADOR ELIOT MUST DEPART FROM SAN FRANCISCO NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 8.
ELIOT

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